

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claim 21 has been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-30 are patentable over the art of record and allowance is respectfully requested of claims 1-30.

The title of the invention is objected to. Applicants have amended the title to overcome the objection.

Claims 21-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse, but, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 21 to an article of manufacture comprising one of hardware logic and a computer readable medium including a program for indexing data, wherein the hardware logic or program causes operations to be performed. For example, the Specification, on page 19, paragraph 65 states:

The term "article of manufacture" as used herein refers to code or logic implemented in hardware logic (e.g., an integrated circuit chip, Programmable Gate Array (PGA), Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC), etc.) or a computer readable medium, such as magnetic storage medium (e.g., hard disk drives, floppy disks, tape, etc.), optical storage (CD-ROMs, optical disks, etc.), volatile and non-volatile memory devices (e.g., EEPROMs, ROMs, PROMs, RAMs, DRAMs, SRAMs, firmware, programmable logic, etc.). Code in the computer readable medium is accessed and executed by a processor.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Charles G. Call (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0165707). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 describe receiving a token and determining whether a data field associated with the token is a fixed width. When the data field is a fixed width, the token is designated as one for which fixed width sort is to be performed. When the data field is a variable length, the token is designated as one for which a variable width sort is to be performed.

On the other hand, paragraph 10 of the Call patent application indicates that it is a further object of the invention to store variable length character data in an addressable array of integer

values organized to permit more efficient execution of processing functions of the type typically performed by data processors. Paragraph 26 of the Call patent application describes that the apparatus and methods represent natural language text in more compact form as an array of fixed length binary integers that may be more rapidly searched, sorted and processed. Because the Call patent application represents text as an array of fixed length binary integers, there is no need for the claimed fixed width sort and variable width sort. Thus, the Call patent application does not anticipate claims 1, 11, and 21.

Dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-30 incorporate the language of independent claims 1, 11, and 21 and add additional novel elements. Therefore, dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-30 are not anticipated by the Call patent application for at least the same reasons as were discussed with respect to claims 1, 11, and 21.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-30 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0460.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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